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THOMPSON TERMED MORALLY INSANE

Counsel Says Accused Killer's Mother Will "Bare Her Soul" To Save Son

STATE RESTS ITS CASE

Defense To Claim Lunacy Runs In Family Of Peorian On Trial For Slaying Of Girl

[By the Associated Press]

Peoria, Ill., July 29—Gerald Thompson was branded insane today as his counsel launched an attempt to save him from the electric chair for the killing of Mildred Hallmark.

"The defendant is morally insane," Ben Thurman, defense attorney, argued in a brief opening statement after the prosecution had abruptly rested its case.

He promised to bring Thompson's mother, Mrs. Florence Whiteside, from a hospital to assume the role of star witness in her son's behalf.

Mother "To Tell All"

"She will lay bare her soul before you jurors in an effort to save her boy," he declared. "She will tell all."

Thurman told of her marriage at 14 to a man he described as a "psychopathic case" and added:

"Two children were born, Gerald, the defendant, and Victor. They are insane. Victor is now in the county jail awaiting trial on charges of taking liberties with an 8-year-old boy.

"The insanity which has run in this family—the father and two sons—is a legal defense against the charges brought by the State."

Defendant Indifferent

Thompson, unabashed by the stares of the large turnout of spectators and unmoved by the mention of his mother's name, paid indifferent heed to the proceedings.

It became apparent that the "grandma's boy" would learn his fate within the next few days. Thurman, surprised by the quick termination of the State's evidence, was not prepared to call his witnesses so court was adjourned until tomorrow.

Elmis V. Champion, State's Attorney, put several witnesses on the stand to confirm portions of Thompson's confession that he slugged, choked and attacked the comely cafe hostess the night of June 16 in a cemetery.

Dubbed "Grandma's Boy"

Although Thompson's mother, recuperating from a nervous breakdown in a hospital, was listed as his principal witness, the accused youth had resided with his grandmother. Hence, some Peorians dubbed him a "grandma's boy."

Police Chief Fred Nussbaum, Detective Charles Welty and Eugene Cavanagh, investigator on the prosecutor's staff, testified that a pair of scissors had been found in the defendant's car. They did not link the shears to the attack on Miss Hallmark, although the State's Attorney has contended Thompson carried them with him to facilitate his attacks on sixteen girls and attempts on sixty-seven others.

The scissors were admitted to evidence over Thurman's objections.

Saw Girl "Picked Up"

John Manias, an apartment house owner, told how he saw a young woman "picked up" by an autoist the night of the murder but he could not identify Miss Hallmark or Thompson as principals in the episode.

Champion, evidently relying on the confession to bulwark his case, did not summon Fred Inbau, scientist of the Northwestern University crime detection laboratory, who placed Thompson under a lie detector test.

"I didn't think it was necessary," the prosecutor explained later.

"Since we got the confession into the record, I couldn't see why Inbau's testimony was needed."

The prosecution required little more than two days to present its case. Thurman has not indicated how long the defense will take.

Accused Of Demanding Money From Premier

Two Men To Be Tried On Charge Of Menacing Mitchell F. Hepburn, Of Ontario

London, Ont., July 29 (AP)—Henry M. Walker, 54-year-old St. Thomas (Ont.) metal worker, today was charged with "demanding money with menaces to steal the same," from Premier Mitchell F. Hepburn of Ontario. A similar charge was laid against Arthur Lekey, 60, at St. Thomas.

Crown Attorney Norman F. Newton, asking that the case against Walker, arrested last week, be remanded until a week from tomorrow, announced the Crown would be ready to proceed against both men. The demand was granted.

Appomattox Park Bill Is Passed By Senate

Measure Is Returned To House For Consideration Of Amendments

Washington, July 29 (AP)—A House bill authorizing creation of a national historical park at Appomattox Court House, Va., was passed today by the Senate and sent back to the House for consideration of amendments.

It would authorize an appropriation of $100,000 for creation of the park.

The Senate also passed and sent to the House a bill by Senator Glass (Dem., Va.) to authorize purchase of the Red Hill estate of Patrick Henry in Charlotte county, Virginia.

Prominent Lawyer Dies

Raleigh, N. C., July 29 (AP)—James H. Pou, 74, one of the outstanding lawyers of North Carolina, died at his home here today after several months of ill health. He was recognized as an authority on corporation law.

May Oppose Borah For Senate Seat

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH—Gov. C. Ben Ross of Idaho has a good chance to defeat Senator Borah, according to a statement made here by James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Fletcher Says G.O.P. Will Make Constitution Issue Next Year

Committee Chairman Declares New Deal Is Trying To Pervert Or Subvert Basic Law Of Land. Move To Fight Borah Assailed

(Continued from Page 1)

supported several Administration measures, consistently has declined to discuss his plans and today members of his office staff aid he was "ignoring" reports about the Administration's opposition to his reelection.

Senator Borah, who has served continuously in the Senate since 1907, is expected to seek reelection in 1936. Neither Mr. Farley nor Senator Lewis indicated how vigorously the Democratic party would support an opponent to the veteran Idahoan. The extent of that support, it was pointed out, would reveal whether or not the Administration is determined to carry out a fight to the finish against the Senator.

Fletcher Hits At New Deal

Viewing the 1936 election on a national basis, Mr. Fletcher said:

"One by one the Roosevelt experiments are failing. They are failing not only to produce results but they are failing to meet the acid test of constitutionality. As a good constitution enables a man to resist disease and the emergencies of sickness, so does a sound constitution enable a country to resist and survive economic and financial ills—and even the patent medicine laws and nostrums prescribed for their cure.

"The lawyers of the Brain Trust, in drafting the New Deal laws, sought to evade the Constitution under the guise of an emergency. But our Constitution was adopted to meet an emergency and adapted for all emergencies.

Looking For Scapegoat

"Now that the New Deal is failing to bring about recovery, to reduce unemployment and generally to work its magic wonders, the Roosevelt Administration is looking for a scapegoat and thinks it has found it in the Constitution. This covert, but soon to be open, attack on our basic laws is even more dangerous and menacing than the crazy patchwork of laws and decrees which has gone by the name of the New Deal, bad as they were and are."

He said the New Deal was "merrily rolling along," fortified by the 1934 elections and the $4,000,000,000 work-relief fund, until the Supreme Court decision on the NRA undermined "the whole New-Deal structure."

Since that decision, Mr. Fletcher asserted, the President's "historic press conference of May 31 and the political developments since indicate the political trend." The conference to which the Republican chairman referred was the one at which Mr. Roosevelt had, in effect, accepted the challenge of the Supreme Court to Federal authority in the nation and had indicated he would carry the contest to the country.

Many Yet To Undergo Tests

"Many of the New Deal laws and pending bills which the President has ordered Congress to pass whether they like it or not, still have to undergo the final test of constitutionality," Mr. Fletcher said. "The nearly uniform decisions in the lower courts forecast the ultimate result. Most of this legislation will not square with the fundamental law of our Government. . . .

"The President has solemnly sworn to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, but his political dreams and desires are embodied in the New Deal. He was at the crossroads on the last of May. He could then have reaffirmed his devotion to our fundamental law. Did he? He did not. He showed clearly his preference for his New Deal, which neither he nor anyone else had sworn to preserve, protect and defend, and which was never heard of until after his inauguration."

LAWYER APPEALS KIDNAP CASE TERM

Defender Of Bates In Urschel Abduction Sentenced To Ten Years In Prison

BAIL FIXED AT $10,000

Attorney Also Was Accused Of Directing Disposal Of $75,000 Of $200,000 Ransom

[By the Associated Press]

Oklahoma City, July 29—Ben B. Laska, defender of kidnappers, received ten years today for conspiracy in the $200,000 abduction of Charles F. Urschel, oil millionaire.

Bitterly, he sputtered a vehement denial later of reports he said he had heard that he might try suicide to avoid prison.

"I know people are saying I may 'blow my top,'" the Denver attorney said. Then he demanded:

"But you never heard of a Jew killing himself, did you?"

Government Hails Conviction

Laska, whose conviction was hailed by the Government as a victory in the drive against lawyers who defend kidnappers, protested tearfully. An appeal was filed immediately.

"Ten years," he cried. "They gave me ten years for taking a fee to defend a man, they stood me up just like I was a common criminal, instead of an attorney who has practiced his profession twenty-seven years.

"It's awful . . . Terrible . . . To treat an innocent man like that."

Protests His Innocence

Protesting his innocence, Laska stood up before Judge Vaught, after motion for a new trial had been overruled.

With arms outspread, he raised a tear-streaked face.

"Judge, all I can say is—be reasonable," he pleaded. "An innocent man is going to be sentenced."

"It is not pleasant for me to sentence an attorney," said Judge Vaught. "On the other hand, an offense has been committed. Some one must pay for it."

After pronouncing sentence, the judge approved a $10,000 appeal bond.

Laska was the twentieth person to be sentenced by Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught for various roles in the machine-gun abduction of the Oklahoma City oil man July 22, 1933. Mr. Urschel was returned unharmed. Most of the ransom was recovered.

The conviction of Laska was based on testimony by Edward Feldman and his mother, Clara Feldman, that the Denver attorney accepted from them $10,000 in "hot ransom cash" to defend Albert Bates, convicted kidnapper, later directing disposal of the remainder of Bates' $75,000 share of the booty.

Feldman and his mother received suspended five-year sentences for their confessed part in the conspiracy.

Wife Of Playwright Files Suit For Divorce

Charges Cruelty In Action Started Against Jack Kirkland In Reno

Reno, Nev., July 29 (AP)—Jack Kirkland, playwright and former husband of Nancy Carroll, actress, was sued for divorce here today by Mrs. Jayne Shaddock Kirkland. She charged cruelty. They were married March 22, 1934, in Jersey City, N. J.

Mrs. Kirkland was an interlocutory divorce from Kirkland in Los Angeles last February. It was understood she sought the final decree in Reno in order to be married later this year to Harry Topping, Jr., a New York socialite.

Miss Carroll is now here to divorce her present husband, Thomas Bolton Mallory, former magazine editor.

Shrinking Man Better After Loss Of Glands

Surgeons, However, Have No Hope Operation Will Restore Patient's Height

Minneapolis, July 29 (AP)—Hans Nelson, 32, the "shrinking man" who underwent an operation for the removal of overactive parathyroid glands in the hope it would halt the shrinking process which had taken ten and a half inches from his stature, today was reported by the University Hospital to be in "satisfactory condition."

He is "up and around" at the hospital, and is expected to return home in a few days.

Surgeons who performed the operation expressed no hope the operation would restore Nelson's lost height. Nelson is a painter by trade. The "shrinkage" occurred over a thirteen-year period.

STRIKE AT CAMDEN BLAMED ON REDS

Head Of Shipbuilding Company Says Hampering Of Naval Work Is Aim

SEVEN VESSELS DELAYED

Union Leaders Call Testimony Before House Group Libelous Nonsense

Washington, July 29 (AP)—The New York Shipbuilding Corporation today blamed Communism for the strike at its Camden (N. J.) yards.

John F. Metten, president of the company, told a House Labor subcommittee that to him the cause of the walkout was obvious. He said:

"The union which terminated its contract with the company and called this strike is dominated by a small radical element anxious to defeat the purposes of our national-defense program and keep this shipyard tied up as long as possible."

$50,000,000 In Navy Work Tied Up

Work on three navy cruisers and four destroyers, to cost more than $50,000,000 in all, has been tied up since the union struck May 13 for higher wages. The House committee started an investigation after the company refused the suggestion of Miss Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, that the strike issues be submitted to arbitration.

Mr. Metten proposed that every shipyard worker be required to take a pledge of allegiance to the United States Government and to the Constitution.

"That will not keep out all the Communists who work covertly," he said, "but it will be a step in the right direction."

Union Leader Issues Reply

Camden, N. J., July 29 (AP)—Union leaders described today as "libelous nonsense" the accusation of John F. Metten, president of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, that the union is conducting a strike "dominated by a small radical element, anxious to defeat the purposes of our national defense program."

A statement issued by Thomas Gallagher, chairman of the union negotiating committee, on behalf of the committee, declared inhuman and un-American its attitude toward its workers and the city of Camden, not to mention its "lack of patriotism in permitting its greed for profits to hinder the national defense."

Manufacturer Urges Fewer Hours, Higher Pay

Head Of Johnson & Johnson Calls On Business Men To Absorb Idle And Help Recovery

New Brunswick, N. J., July 29 (Special)—Robert Wood Johnson, president of Johnson & Johnson, manufacturers of surgical supplies, called today on the business men of the country to institute as quickly as possible a system of shorter hours and higher wages to absorb the unemployed and give the public sufficient buying power to absorb the products of industry.

Unless this is done, he said, there will be "a permanent army of from 15,000,000 to 25,000,000 persons on the relief rolls."

If industry reabsorbs the unemployed, he said, it should expect the local and national governments to live within their means. Business men then, he said, might expect to make profits out of what they otherwise will be paying in taxes. Mr. Johnson said he believed the National Recovery Act was a great effort in the right direction, but failed because it did not go far enough.

Florida Chain Stores Win In Tax-Law Case

Court Holds Section Placing Impost On Gross Receipts Is Invalid

Gainesville, Fla., July 29 (AP)—The section of Florida's new chain-store tax law which levied a tax on gross receipts, the amount of the tax being based on the number of stores operated by a single firm, was called "arbitrary, unreasonable and discriminatory" in a Federal court opinion filed here today.

A three-judge Federal court recently held that section of the 1935 legislative act invalid and granted chain stores an interlocutory injunction restraining collection of this part of the tax on condition they posted specified bonds pending final decision in the case.

The opinion said the section of the law imposing annual occupational license taxes ranging from $10 on one store up to $100 on each store in chains of sixteen or more was valid.

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